GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1093
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
COTTON GROWERS OF MAHARASHTRA
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards cotton growers of Maharashtra who have not been paid procurement prices for the last year;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to give them protection and the reasonable price of cotton; and

(c) the details of cotton produced during the last three years in Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): The State Government of Maharashtra have informed that for 2001-2002Season, the payment of cotton was decided to be made in four instalments viz, 90% of the Guaranteed Price at the time of procurement and remaining 10% of the GuaranteedPrice before 31st March, 2002. The 1st instalment of Advance Additional Price from 2nd May, 2002 and 2nd instalment of Advance Additional Price from 2nd August 2002. Due to financial crunch, the State Government could not make the payment of cotton as decided. However, full amount of 90% Guaranteed Price (Rs.2167 crores) has beenfully paid to the cotton cultivators upto 20th June, 2002 and remaining 10% (Rs.240.76 crores) of Guaranteed price has been paid on 16th July, 2002. For this purpose the State Government of Maharashtra has also sanctioned Rs. 570 crores as short termloan to the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation.The State Government of Maharashtra is persistently making efforts to make available fundsfor making payment of remaining Advance Additional Price.

(c): The production of cotton in Maharashtra has been estimated at 26.19 lakh bales, 30.99 lakh bales and 18.03 lakh bales of 170 kgs. each in 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively.